

Remarks

Claims 1-7 and 9-14 are currently pending in the Application, Claim 15 is newly presented herein, and Claim 6 is herein canceled without prejudice.

Allowable Claims

Applicant acknowledges with gratitude the Examiner's indication of allowability as to Claims 3-6 and 12-13.

Summary of claim amendments

This response amends Claim 1 to recite features of Claim 6 found patentable by the Examiner and cancels Claim 6 without prejudice. No new matter has been added.

This response amends Claim 14 to recite features of Claim 6 found patentable by the Examiner. No new matter has been added.

New claim

This response adds new Claim 15 to more completely claim the invention. New Claim 15 recites limitations of Claim 1-3 found patentable by the Examiner. No new matter has been added.

35 U.S.C. §103(a) Rejection

Claims 1-2, 7, 9-11 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious in view of applicant's Admitted Prior Art (APA) (Figure 1B) and further in view of Won (U.S. Patent No. 6,046,785) or Kubo (JP 10-161114).

Applicant acknowledges with gratitude the Examiner's indication of allowability as to claims 3-6 and 12-13. Applicant traverses the Examiner's rejection of Claims 1-2, 7, 9-11 and 14 and disagree that these claims are obvious in view of applicant's Admitted Prior Art (APA) (Figure 1B) and further in view of Won (U.S. Patent No. 6,046,785) or Kubo (JP 10-161114). However, in the interest of moving this application to issue, Applicant

has amended Claims 1 and 14 to include limitations of Claim 6 found patentable by the Examiner in the Office Action and cancelled Claim 6 without prejudice, expressly reserving the right to present these or any other rejected claims or claims directed to other disclosed subject matter in a future divisional or continuation application. Further, Applicant has added new Claim 15 reciting limitations of Claims 1-3 found patentable by the Examiner in the Office Action.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of all the claims are respectfully solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 12-0415. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, then the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136 (a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 12-0415.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Post Office with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents POB 1450,
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July 12, 2006
(Date of Deposit)

Mary Ennabi
(Name of Person Signing)

Mary Ennabi
(Signature)

July 12, 2006
(Date)

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Popa

Robert Popa
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 43,010
LADAS & PARRY
5670 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 2100
Los Angeles, California 90036
(323) 934-2300

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